

A 92.18/2: Hny (1-69)

HONEY PRODUCTION

1968 ANNUAL SUMMARY



Release:
January 21, 1969
3:00 P.M. (EST)

Honey production during 1968 totaled 200,081,000 pounds, down 10 percent from 1967 and the smallest honey crop since 1944, according to the Crop Reporting Board. The 1968 production per colony averaged 41.9 pounds, compared with 46.3 pounds a year earlier. The 1968 crop was produced by 4,770,000 colonies, one percent less than the number of colonies in 1967. Beeswax production in 1968 totaled 3,960,000 pounds, a decrease of 13 percent from 1967.

In mid-December, producers reported 43 million pounds of honey on hand for sale compared with 59 million pounds a year earlier. Stocks in mid-December represented 21 percent of the 1968 honey production, compared to 26 percent in 1967.

The 1968 season was unfavorable in most areas of the United States. Spring weather was generally cool and wet followed by dry conditions later in the season in many of the important producing States. Production in California was about half as large as last year. However, Florida's production was 16 percent larger than a year ago.

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The Nation's beekeepers received an average of 16.9 cents per pound for 1968 sales of all honey. This compares with the 1967 average price of 15.6 cents. Prices were higher in 1968 for most types of honey sold at both wholesale and retail.

Unprocessed bulk honey averaged 12.9 cents per pound, up one-half cent from a year earlier. Sales of processed bulk honey averaged 16.0 cents per pound compared with 14.8 cents per pound in 1967. Processed packaged honey was 23.8 cents per pound, about a cent higher than the average of 22.5 cents a year earlier. Extracted honey in wholesale lots, at 14.7 cents per pound, was also about a penny higher than in 1967.

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HONEY: Number of colonies, production and stocks,
United States, 1959-68

Year	Number colonies	Yield per colony	Honey production	Stocks on hand for sale Dec. 15
	1,000 colonies	Pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
1959	5,109	46.3	236,578	59,969
1960	5,005	48.5	242,802	52,206
1961	4,992	51.3	255,868	68,119
1962	4,900	50.9	249,608	55,933
1963	4,849	55.0	266,778	55,082
1964	4,840	51.9	251,188	65,776
1965	4,783	51.1	244,549	58,327
1966	4,772	51.9	247,642	56,906
1967	4,819	46.3	223,300	58,800
1968	4,770	41.9	200,081	51,030

HONEY-BEESWAX: Production and value, United States, 1959-68

Year	Honey			Beeswax		
	Production	Price per pound	Total value	Production	Price per pound	Total value
	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds	Cents	1,000 dollars
1959	236,578	17.0	40,137	4,215	44.4	1,872
1960	242,802	17.9	43,500	4,372	44.0	1,922
1961	255,868	18.0	46,072	4,720	44.1	2,080
1962	249,608	17.4	43,494	4,805	44.1	2,117
1963	266,778	18.0	48,096	4,828	44.2	2,133
1964	251,188	18.6	46,638	4,672	44.3	2,070
1965	244,549	17.8	43,475	4,749	44.9	2,132
1966	247,642	17.4	43,012	4,739	46.6	2,207
1967	223,300	15.6	34,877	4,541	58.8	2,672
1968	200,081	16.9	33,856	3,960	61.6	2,443

HONEY BEES: Number of colonies and production of honey, 1967 and 1968

State	Colonies of bees			Yield per colony		Honey production		
	1967	1968	1968 as % of 1967	1967	1968	1967	1968	1968 as % of 1967
	1,000 col.	1,000 col.	Percent	Pounds	Pounds	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Percent
Maine	5	5	100	23	16	115	80	70
N. H.	5	5	100	24	15	120	75	62
Vt.	8	8	100	35	16	280	128	46
Mass.	10	10	100	24	22	240	220	92
R. I.	2	2	100	22	20	44	40	91
Conn.	10	10	100	28	21	280	210	75
N. Y.	164	157	96	40	42	6,560	6,594	101
N. J.	37	35	95	40	35	1,480	1,225	83
Pa.	113	110	97	29	28	3,277	3,080	94
Ohio	149	146	98	11	31	1,639	4,526	276
Ind.	102	95	93	13	32	1,326	3,040	229
Ill.	91	88	97	39	42	3,549	3,696	104
Mich.	121	120	99	50	75	6,050	9,000	149
Wis.	142	139	98	78	55	11,076	7,645	69
Minn.	189	183	97	108	57	20,412	10,431	51
Iowa	141	142	101	90	70	12,690	9,940	78
Mo.	101	99	98	55	40	5,555	3,960	71
N. Dak.	52	55	106	102	90	5,304	4,950	93
S. Dak.	101	104	103	100	107	10,100	11,128	110
Nebr.	103	103	100	55	70	5,665	7,210	127
Kans.	49	49	100	50	45	2,450	2,205	90
Del.	4	4	100	43	40	172	160	93
Mi.	31	29	94	46	46	1,426	1,334	94
Va.	103	101	98	22	19	2,266	1,919	85
W. Va.	92	91	99	24	17	2,208	1,547	70
N. C.	226	219	97	15	19	3,390	4,161	123
S. C.	63	64	102	12	13	756	832	110
Ga.	175	180	103	25	29	4,375	5,220	119
Fla.	309	321	104	58	65	17,922	20,865	116
Ky.	87	83	95	22	18	1,914	1,494	78
Tenn.	146	139	95	16	17	2,336	2,363	101
Ala.	96	91	95	23	23	2,208	2,093	95
Miss.	65	52	80	32	24	2,080	1,248	60
Ark.	92	90	98	28	25	2,576	2,250	87
La.	86	83	97	40	38	3,440	3,154	92
Okla.	50	55	110	46	36	2,300	1,980	86
Texas	229	227	99	40	42	9,160	9,534	104
Mont.	80	80	100	98	85	7,840	6,800	87
Idaho	214	220	103	48	46	10,272	10,120	99
Wyo.	30	32	107	53	51	1,590	1,632	103
Colo.	51	46	90	42	41	2,142	1,886	88
N. Mex.	15	15	100	54	61	810	915	113
Ariz.	88	83	94	41	57	3,608	4,731	131
Utah	51	50	98	44	21	2,244	1,050	47
Nev.	9	8	89	80	65	720	520	72
Wash.	97	97	100	43	39	4,171	3,783	91
Oreg.	70	74	106	39	32	2,730	2,368	87
Calif.	559	565	101	54	29	30,186	16,385	54
48 States	4,813	4,764	99	46.3	41.9	223,054	199,727	90
Hawaii	6	6	100	41	59	246	354	144
U. S.	4,819	4,770	99	46.3	41.9	223,300	200,081	90

HONEY: Price per pound, value of production and stocks
on hand December 15 for sale, 1967 and 1968

State	Average price per pound		Value of production		Honey stocks on hand December 15 for sale	
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
	Cents	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds
Maine	43.6	44.6	50	36	52	28
N. H.	40.0	40.8	48	31	44	15
Vt.	32.9	34.2	92	44	146	19
Mass.	41.6	42.7	100	94	96	84
R. I.	37.4	38.8	16	16	11	10
Conn.	39.3	39.8	110	84	126	94
N. Y.	15.7	15.6	1,030	1,029	1,902	1,978
N. J.	24.6	27.4	364	336	814	490
Pa.	20.2	21.2	662	653	950	1,016
Ohio	19.3	20.2	316	914	443	1,448
Ind.	16.8	17.6	223	535	345	730
Ill.	19.0	19.3	674	713	1,065	887
Mich.	14.9	15.4	901	1,386	2,299	2,880
Wis.	15.0	16.0	1,661	1,223	4,873	2,294
Minn.	15.5	17.4	3,164	1,815	7,552	3,338
Iowa	15.0	15.2	1,904	1,511	5,076	3,081
Mo.	15.6	16.7	867	661	944	911
N. Dak.	13.6	13.7	721	678	636	693
S. Dak.	13.6	14.7	1,374	1,636	1,010	779
Nebr.	12.5	13.8	708	995	1,813	3,821
Kans.	15.7	16.6	385	366	368	617
Del.	32.7	32.8	56	52	52	48
Md.	28.6	29.8	408	398	200	293
Va.	28.5	28.5	646	547	476	422
W. Va.	32.0	32.2	707	498	442	356
N. C.	23.6	23.2	800	965	915	832
S. C.	29.7	29.7	225	247	91	183
Ga.	17.0	17.0	744	887	656	574
Fla.	14.8	19.0	2,652	3,964	3,405	2,712
Ky.	31.6	32.2	605	481	230	179
Tenn.	20.0	21.7	467	513	444	567
Ala.	19.5	21.6	431	452	552	460
Miss.	21.1	21.7	439	271	354	250
Ark.	23.7	25.0	611	563	412	360
La.	15.5	15.4	533	486	275	442
Okla.	23.4	26.7	538	529	483	396
Texas	14.8	15.7	1,356	1,497	2,382	1,907
Mont.	14.2	13.2	1,113	898	1,098	680
Idaho	12.8	13.9	1,315	1,407	2,979	1,619
Wyo.	13.5	13.6	215	222	111	33
Colo.	16.6	18.1	356	341	600	773
N. Mex.	12.0	11.0	97	101	178	146
Ariz.	11.1	11.2	400	530	938	473
Utah	13.1	14.7	294	154	1,212	304
Nev.	14.3	14.3	103	74	288	21
Wash.	13.5	13.5	563	511	626	719
Oreg.	14.2	15.2	388	360	601	592
Calif.	11.3	12.8	3,411	2,097	8,150	2,130
48 States	15.6	16.9	34,843	33,801	58,715	42,684
Hawaii	13.7	15.4	34	55	85	149
U. S.	15.6	16.9	34,877	33,856	58,800	42,833

BEESWAX: Production, price per pound, and value, 1967 and 1968

State	Production		Price per pound		Value	
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
	1,000 pounds	1,000 pounds	Cents	Cents	1,000 dollars	1,000 dollars
Maine	2	2	53	53	1	1
N. H.	2	2	55	53	1	1
Vt.	4	3	54	55	2	2
Mass.	5	4	55	55	3	2
R. I.	1	1	52	51	1	1
Conn.	7	5	51	51	4	3
N. Y.	118	112	61	64	72	72
N. J.	25	28	56	65	14	18
Pa.	59	71	57	59	34	42
Ohio	49	86	58	62	28	53
Ind.	36	67	57	60	21	40
Ill.	67	78	55	60	37	47
Mich.	121	171	61	61	74	104
Wis.	199	138	60	61	119	84
Minn.	408	229	58	61	237	140
Iowa	292	209	62	64	181	134
Mo.	72	81	57	63	41	51
N. Dak.	85	89	66	65	56	58
S. Dak.	182	189	66	68	120	129
Nebr.	119	130	59	60	70	78
Kans.	51	44	62	59	32	26
Del.	3	3	65	60	2	2
Md.	24	23	65	60	16	14
Va.	45	33	55	63	25	21
W. Va.	44	31	55	58	24	18
N. C.	112	125	55	55	62	69
S. C.	19	19	52	57	10	11
Ga.	79	120	58	59	46	71
Fla.	323	376	52	60	168	226
Ky.	42	37	54	51	23	19
Tenn.	47	47	51	49	24	23
Ala.	51	44	60	55	31	24
Miss.	37	31	53	58	20	18
Ark.	57	50	57	60	32	30
La.	72	57	57	65	41	37
Okla.	41	34	59	61	24	21
Texas	202	200	58	62	117	124
Mont.	157	136	62	66	97	90
Idaho	205	201	59	62	121	125
Wyo.	40	31	54	62	22	19
Colo.	51	41	55	65	28	27
N. Mex.	12	18	55	65	7	12
Ariz.	76	90	49	55	37	50
Utah	40	24	53	56	21	13
Nev.	13	9	62	68	8	6
Wash.	92	95	53	61	49	58
Oreg.	55	43	52	58	29	25
Calif.	694	295	63	67	437	198
48 States	4,537	3,952	58.8	61.5	2,669	2,437
Hawaii	4	8	63	73	3	6
U. S.	4,541	3,960	58.8	61.6	2,672	2,443

HONEY: Average price per pound received by farmers, 1967 and 1968
wholesale extracted honey

State	Unprocessed Bulk									
	55 Gallon Containers: 60 Pound Containers :					All : Processed Bulk: All Bulk				
	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
	Cents		Cents		Cents		Cents		Cents	
Maine	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
N. H.	--	--	14	14	14	14	17	16	16	15
Vt.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Mass.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
R. I.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
Conn.	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--
N. Y.	13	13	14	13	14	13	16	13	14	13
N. J.	--	--	14	15	14	15	15	--	14	15
Pa.	12	13	14	16	13	14	16	16	14	15
Ohio	14	14	14	15	14	15	17	20	14	15
Ind.	12	13	13	14	12	13	15	20	12	13
Ill.	16	15	16	15	16	15	18	21	16	16
Mich.	13	13	13	13	13	13	14	15	13	13
Wis.	13	14	14	14	13	14	15	16	13	14
Minn.	13	14	13	14	13	14	15	18	13	15
Iowa	13	13	14	14	13	13	16	16	13	13
Mo.	13	14	13	14	13	14	14	16	13	14
N. Dak.	13	13	14	14	13	13	--	--	13	13
S. Dak.	13	14	13	14	13	14	--	15	13	14
Nebr.	12	13	13	14	12	13	15	17	12	13
Kans.	13	14	14	15	13	14	15	16	13	14
Del.	--	--	17	17	17	17	--	--	17	17
Md.	--	--	17	17	17	17	18	--	17	17
Va.	--	--	16	16	16	16	--	--	16	16
W. Va.	--	--	16	16	16	16	--	--	16	16
N. C.	14	14	16	16	14	14	16	17	15	16
S. C.	16	16	20	20	16	16	18	18	17	17
Ga.	13	12	18	17	13	12	--	--	13	12
Fla.	11	12	--	--	11	12	12	14	11	12
Ky.	--	--	12	12	12	12	17	19	14	15
Tenn.	15	15	15	15	15	15	20	--	15	15
Ala.	10	11	11	12	10	11	15	15	11	11
Miss.	11	11	15	15	12	12	12	15	12	12
Ark.	10	12	12	14	11	13	15	15	13	14
La.	12	11	--	--	12	11	13	12	12	11
Okla.	--	--	11	13	11	13	14	--	14	13
Texas	11	12	12	13	11	12	14	16	11	12
Mont.	14	13	15	15	14	13	16	--	14	13
Idaho	12	13	12	13	12	13	13	15	12	13
Wyo.	13	13	13	15	13	13	--	--	13	13
Colo.	12	13	12	14	12	13	13	14	12	13
N. Mex.	11	10	11	11	11	10	--	--	11	10
Ariz.	11	11	11	12	11	11	11	12	11	11
Utah	12	12	12	15	12	14	16	16	12	14
Nev.	13	13	14	14	14	14	--	--	14	14
Wash.	11	11	13	13	12	12	13	13	12	12
Oreg.	12	13	13	14	12	13	--	--	12	13
Calif.	11	12	12	13	11	12	14	13	11	12
48 States	12.3	12.8	13.0	13.7	12.4	12.9	14.8	16.0	12.4	13.1
Hawaii	11	13	10	11	10	12	--	--	10	12
U. S.	12.3	12.8	13.0	13.7	12.4	12.9	14.8	16.0	12.4	13.1

HONEY: Average price per pound received by farmers, 1967 and 1968

State	Wholesale Extracted Honey				Retail Extracted:		Chunk		Comb	
	All packages		All		1967	1968	1967	1968	1967	1968
	1967	1968	1967	1968						
	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents	Cents
Maine	36	38	36	38	44	46	53	53	58	58
N. H.	35	36	33	33	45	46	54	54	55	55
Vt.	28	29	28	29	34	35	45	45	52	52
Mass.	33	33	33	33	43	45	55	55	57	57
R. I.	31	32	31	32	41	43	--	--	55	55
Conn.	30	31	30	31	41	42	53	53	58	59
N. Y.	25	26	15	14	28	29	--	--	38	40
N. J.	20	23	16	20	40	41	50	55	55	60
Pa.	26	27	16	17	32	32	34	38	38	41
Ohio	22	22	16	17	31	30	35	39	38	42
Ind.	25	26	14	15	31	32	41	41	--	--
Ill.	22	23	17	17	29	30	--	--	38	41
Mich.	19	22	14	14	28	28	--	--	35	43
Wis.	23	24	15	16	24	25	--	--	--	--
Minn.	22	24	14	16	26	27	34	35	40	42
Iowa	22	23	13	14	29	30	31	35	40	43
Mo.	19	20	14	15	28	30	--	--	41	45
N. Dak.	20	20	13	13	26	26	--	--	--	--
S. Dak.	--	22	13	14	25	25	--	--	--	--
Nebr.	23	22	12	14	25	26	--	--	--	--
Kans.	25	26	14	15	22	22	41	37	43	44
Del.	25	27	25	27	36	35	44	47	42	45
Md.	25	27	25	27	37	36	40	42	42	44
Va.	28	29	19	19	35	36	34	33	35	35
W. Va.	27	28	23	24	40	40	34	33	37	37
N. C.	29	28	17	18	39	36	41	36	39	37
S. C.	27	30	22	24	36	36	38	34	39	36
Ga.	24	28	13	12	36	34	25	28	--	34
Fla.	20	26	13	16	30	31	26	25	--	--
Ky.	31	31	22	23	39	38	37	38	34	36
Tenn.	27	32	17	19	36	36	36	36	40	38
Ala.	25	27	14	14	32	36	26	31	38	39
Miss.	25	26	16	16	30	32	34	34	35	36
Ark.	24	25	18	20	28	30	31	32	38	38
La.	20	20	13	12	27	29	31	34	35	34
Okla.	24	24	20	22	32	33	32	35	36	39
Texas	18	20	12	13	27	27	37	36	45	40
Mont.	17	18	14	13	26	27	--	--	--	--
Idaho	21	22	13	14	22	25	--	--	--	--
Wyo.	21	22	13	13	22	24	--	--	--	--
Colo.	22	24	15	16	22	24	29	35	41	46
N. Mex.	28	29	11	10	31	31	--	--	--	--
Ariz.	18	18	11	11	18	19	--	--	--	--
Utah	16	16	12	14	19	19	--	--	--	--
Nev.	22	22	14	14	20	20	--	--	--	--
Wash.	22	22	13	13	29	30	--	--	--	--
Oreg.	17	18	13	14	25	26	--	--	48	46
Calif.	19	16	11	13	26	28	--	--	--	--
48 States	22.5	23.8	13.5	14.7	29.7	30.6	30.7	29.8	38.4	40.0
Hawaii	22	24	13	15	28	29	--	--	--	--
U. S.	22.5	23.8	13.5	14.7	29.7	30.6	30.7	29.8	38.4	40.0

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Retail sales of extracted honey averaged 30.6 cents per pound in 1968, compared with 29.7 cents in 1967. This is the first year that the price has exceeded 30 cents per pound. Because of the declining importance of comb and chunk honey, wholesale and retail sales were combined for the first time this year. The price of all chunk honey was 29.8 cents per pound, down from 30.7 cents in 1967. Sales of all comb honey averaged 40.0 cents per pound, compared with 38.4 cents a year earlier.

The price of beeswax increased for the sixth consecutive year. The price of beeswax averaged 61.6 cents per pound compared with 58.8 cents per pound in 1967 and 46.6 cents per pound in 1966.